

FOUR DAYS LATER FROM EUROPE.

Arrival of the City of Baltimore—The Rebel Steam-Ram Stonewall and the French Government—The Defences of Canada—The French Yellow Book of the War in the United States, and on Mexico—Sale of the Royal Patrimony of Spain.

The ironclad steamer City of Baltimore, Captain Marchant, which left Liverpool at 3 o'clock on the afternoon of the 22d, and Queenstown on the 23d of February, arrived here yesterday, bringing four days later news.

The City arrived at Liverpool about 5 o'clock on the afternoon of the 19th, but the passengers, &c., could not be landed until the following morning, on account of the storm which prevailed on the Mersey.

The Virginia arrived at Queenstown on the evening of the 21st February, and the Peruvian of London yesterday on the forenoon of the 22d.

Great Britain.

The advices by the Cuba, confirming the report that the peace negotiations had failed, and stating that important military movements had recommended, caused a slight decline in United States securities, and also in the Confederate Cotton loan, while in Liverpool they imparted more strength to the Cotton market, although the improvement in prices was but slight and temporary.

The *Paris de la Loire* denies the statement that the French Government had sent any war vessels in pursuit of the rebel steam-ram "Stonewall," and says that the Cabinet of the Tuilleries does not consider that it possesses the right to pursue the steam-ram of the Slave States, though by completing and fitting out in French waters she committed an audacious violation of our neutrality. We hope the result of the investigation made into the subject will not be null. It is impossible indeed for the affair to remain quiet.

The *Morning Star* of Liverpool says that the Confederate transport ship *Florida*, of which mention has recently been made, is now at Ferrol. She left the Island of Santander on the 16th of January, but was damaged during a gale in the Bay of Biscay. She has three heavy guns and 74 men, but is not considered seaworthy. The United States ships of war Niagara and Sacramento are already in Ferrol, or cruising off the port, ready to pay their respects to this new opponent should she reappear beyond neutral waters.

The *London Times* in its City Article alludes to the probability of blockade-running being checked by the introduction of the new Magnesia light late in the American navy.

The Americans in London were to celebrate Washington's birthday on the day the City of Baltimore left, a dinner at which the U. S. Consul, Mr. Morse, would preside, and Mr. Adams would be the principal guest.

In the House of Lords on the 26th of February an important debate took place on the defense of Canada. Lord Arundel called attention to the services of Sir James Jervis, the general of Canada, who he said, gave up his life in the service of his country, and the members of the Canadian army the utterly defenseless condition of the Canadian territory. He thought England ought not to rely upon the conciliatory intention of the American people, as it was well understood, when there was prospect of peace being concluded between the Northern and Southern States the other day, that peace and Union meant war with England. He could not account for the intense hatred and hostility which the Americans appear to entertain towards England, unless they were offered to the neutrality which was recognized.

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After a speech from Mr. Jervis, the motion was carried.

The *London Morning Post* says the conclusion of peace between Spain and Peru has not yet been officially announced in the Courts by Government, as was expected. The intelligence was derived from the French Consul at Cadiz. The amount of indemnity Peru is to pay Spain is not yet known. The *London Times* says telegrams from Madrid announce that after a sitting of the Council the Ministerial project for the forced loan was announced to have been abandoned. It is also said that a new arrangement of the Council will be the consequence, and that the French minister either has resigned or is about to resign, inasmuch as he has been unable to get a majority of the members of the Council to support him in the instance of the Queen, whereby the immense property forming the royal patrimony will be for the benefit of the nation. Seventy-five per cent of the proceeds will go to the public treasury, and twenty-five per cent to the royal treasury.

The bill was received with unanimous enthusiasm, and the Chamber unanimously agreed to a proposal for the expression of gratitude to the Queen.

The sale is estimated to produce 600,000,000 of reals. The whole Chamber accompanied the Committee to the palace, to present the address to the Queen expressing the gratitude of the country for the proposed sale of the royal property. They were received by the Queen, Her Majesty said that, as she considered herself the mother of the Spanish people, she wished to be the first to sacrifice herself for their interests.

and for the Universal Exhibition of Fine Arts, which take place in Paris simultaneously.

THE "YELLOW BOOK" ON THE UNITED STATES AND MEXICO.

The following is the account given in the "Yellow Book" of the relations of France to the United States and Mexico.

"We still continue in the United States, and the indecisive resolution of the two belligerents does not permit us now, any more than a year ago, to see the end of this bloody and disastrous struggle. The Government of the Emperor has not departed from those principles of strict neutrality which it has laid down as the rule of its conduct since the commencement of the war. Decided, so long as circumstances were not more favorable, not to renew our efforts to open a way to mutual understanding, we have remained inactive, and have even withdrawn from the field of battle, so far as our position in the South is concerned. We have, however, at the same time, succeeded in bringing the French Government to admit that it ought, in strict equity, to distinguish between those damages suffered by our countrymen, resulting from military operations, and those which the authorities by irregular and forced requisitions, have gravitously inflicted upon them; and we have insisted that proper reparation should be granted for the latter injuries. We wish we could add that our efforts had obtained the result we were entitled to expect."

A Sonata by Scarlatti followed, which was chiefly interesting for its antiquity, that is, as a specimen of the music in vogue at the period in which it flourished. It is dry and possesses little either of fancy or tenderness. It was accurately and brilliantly played by Mr. Mills; his prompt and rapid execution displaying the guarded and twisted scale passages with extraordinary precision. The grand and masterly fugue in C. Minor, by Bach, was a splendid performance. Not a note was missed, and every point in the intricate working of the composition stood out in due proportion, and laid the whole plan open to the understanding. The "Intermezzo," by Schumann, containing three movements, may be taken as a fair sample of that composer's habit of thought. The first and third movements are very charming indeed, with melodies and second subjects broad and well defined, but the second movement is learnedly obscure and disconcertingly uncomfortable. Mr. Mills played them all with spirit and unaffected accuracy, and his first reading proved that he had fully studied the peculiarities of the composer's style.

The two Studies by Chopin were the executive gems of the evening. In these Mr. Mills displayed much sentiment and sympathy of touch, and a nice shade of color and expression. He played the second Study with so much fire, and with a touch so delicate and perfect, that he won a deserved encore, which he acknowledged by playing in a very charming manner a Nocturna, by the same composer.

The performance of Liszt's "Rhapsodie Hongroise" was by far the most brilliant as a feat of executive ability that Mr. Mills gave during the evening. It abounds with difficulties, which Mr. Mills overcame with a facility which seemed to indicate that he still had power in reserve for any further difficulties that might encounter.

Mr. Mills possesses a most perfect technique, so perfect, indeed, that it is hardly possible to imagine anything superior. His touch is firm, delicate and powerful; he plays with unfailing accuracy, and with an extraordinary degree of *bravura*. He pays too little attention, however, to the finer shade of coloring, which is the intellectual animus of every composition. It would seem, to a certain degree, as though he bent all his energies to accomplish the notes written down, and having done that, that his work is ended. It is, perhaps, not altogether so, but there is a squareness in his playing, an amount of unyieldingness that is destructive to the inner sentiment of the composition. Within the last year or so, Mr. Mills has had a new revelation in art, and has overcome much of that angularity of style and icy precision of mechanism, and displays a degree of warmth and a sense of tone-coloring which leads one to hope that he will yet add the grace of heart and imagination to his executive perfection—that the aesthetic will soon overshadow the merely technical.

The first Suite was undoubtedly a success, as it gave abundant satisfaction to his audience, and will soon be followed by others.

At the Academy of Music, to-night, will be presented the ever popular Opera of Faust. It will be the last time that this Opera can be seen this season, which is now rapidly drawing to a close, so its admirers should avail themselves of this occasion. Miss Kellogg, Madalena Morena, Massimiliani and Bellini, sustain the principal characters.

INDIA.—
BIRMINGHAM, Jan. 23.—By telegraph via Suez Shirts and Twist firm, Dibberah Cotton, £3. Exchange, 2½%. Freight to Liverpool, 62.

CALCUTTA, Jan. 27.—Shirts quiet. Twist steady. Exchange 2½%. Freight to London, 55, and do. change.

Private telegrams from Shanghai report numerous failures on account of continued losses in tea and silk.

Latest.

LIVERPOOL, Feb. 23.—The steamship America, from New York, arrived at Southampton on the 22d. The City of York, from New York, arrived at Queenstown on the 23d.

The Danube, from Portland, arrived at London yesterday on the 22d.

Earl Grey said what he should have refrained from taking part in the discussion if the Government, by leaving the table the report showing the defenseless state of the most important colonies, had supported the opinion of Parliament upon the subject. He thought the avowal made by the Government was a most humiliating one to the country at a moment when the question of peace and war depended not on the conciliation of friendly powers, but on the executive powers of the Canadian Government.

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